

tional Disorders" by William B. Bean, Professor of Medicine, University of Iowa; Chapter 7 on "Local Antiseptics" by Philip B. Price, Dean and Professor of Surgery at the University of Utah College of Medicine; Chapter 8 on "Antibacterial Agents" by Chester S. Keefer, Professor of Medicine, Boston University; Chapter 11 on "Stimulants to Vital Medullary Centers" by McKeen Cattell, Professor (Emeritus) of Pharmacology, Cornell University Medical College; Chapter 14 on "Sedatives and Tranquilizers in General Medical Practice" by Dale G. Friend, Clinical Pharmacologist at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston; Chapter 15 on "Hypnotics" by Louis Lasagna, Associate Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Chapter 24 on "Drugs in the Treatment of Hypertension" by Sidney W. Hoobler, Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of the Hypertension Unit, University of Michigan Medical School; Chapter 26 on "Vasodilator Drugs for the Treatment of Peripheral Vascular Disturbances" by John H. Moyer, Professor of Medicine at Hahnemann Medical College; and Chapter 39 on "Dermatologic Drugs" by Marion B. Sulzberger, Professor Emeritus of Dermatology, New York University School of Medicine.

A special feature of this practical treatise on drugs is a series of 46 tables for quick reference on such subjects as "Determination of Children's Doses from Adult Doses on the Basis of Body Surface Area," "Normal Electrolyte Patterns of the Body Fluids," "Conversion of Gravimetric Concentrations of Plasma Electrolytes to Combining Equivalents," "Clinical, Chemical and Biological Data on Vitamins," "Diseases in which Penicillin Is the Antibacterial Agent of Choice," "List of Allergic or Possibly Allergic Reactions to Drugs," "Average Doses of Vasopressor Drugs," "Nonnarcotic Antitussive Agents," "Corticotropin and Corticosteroids Employed in Allergic Disease," "Summary of Therapy of Hypoplastic Anemia or Bone Marrow Failure," "Suggested Constituents of a Kit for Treatment of Poisoning," etc.

This book is as up to date as a book can be, and although the previous edition was published in 1960, it offers much that is new, either in substance or point of view. There are four chapters by new authors: "Antidiabetic Agents," "Drugs in Arterial Hypertension and Shock," "Anticonvulsants," and "Antiemetic Agents."

With each new edition of this book, there is improvement in the selection of material, manner of presentation and interest to the reader.

CLINTON H. THIENES, M.D.

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SYNOPSIS OF OBSTETRICS—Sixth Edition—Charles E. McLennan, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Stanford University School of Medicine, Palo Alto, Calif. The C. V. Mosby Co., 3207 Washington Blvd., St. Louis 3, Mo., 1962. 464 pages, \$6.75.

This well-known, attractively produced and apparently popular précis is written in a succinct, almost telegraphic style, in which the text is partly in tabulated form. Despite extreme condensation, virtually all important subjects in obstetrics are touched to some extent. The emphasis of this book is on diagnosis and management of obstetrical problems, and all of the clinical methods described represent relatively sound and conservative practice. However, as is perhaps inevitable in such a manual of this sort, the author is rather dogmatic in his recommendations.

In this edition there is a certain improvement in the organization of the text with rearrangement of the material into a more logical sequence. The mechanism of labor is now placed before the management of labor, and postpartum hemorrhage is now treated with the postpartum complica-

tions, rather than with antepartum hemorrhage. We are happy to see that in the management of postpartum hemorrhage the recommendation for packing of the uterus has been withdrawn from the text; and that the number of sex chromatin in the human is now correctly stated to be 46.

Despite these changes, however, the question naturally arises as to whether this new edition is truly justified. True, this edition is organized into six fewer chapters, has 12 new illustrations and 61 more pages as compared with the edition of five years previously; however, it offers precious little new information.

One defect is that certain statements which seem incontrovertible, are in fact extremely debatable; for example, that the best treatment of hyperthyroidism in pregnancy is preparation with Lugol's solution followed by subtotal thyroidectomy; and that in malarious areas, malaria is not usually a serious complication of pregnancy. It would seem that in a discussion of the treatment of genital urinary tract infections the dangers to the fetus of certain sulpha drugs should be emphasized, and that, in a section on hemorrhagic disease of the newborn the amount of vitamin K to be given for prophylaxis should be clarified and the dangers of over-dosage emphasized. In the section on Apnea neonatorum there is no real discussion of treatment, which is, however, presented over 200 pages previously in the section on care of the newborn. One would also think that a small bibliography would be useful in referring the reader to a fuller treatment of reference material elsewhere.

Another question which naturally arises is for whom this synopsis is intended. The preface would indicate that it is mainly to be of value to students, and ostensibly this book is probably presented as a foundation on which they are to build clinical experience. One must question the validity of commending this expensive volume as a mere outline of obstetrics, to be used by itself by medical students, however, since it would seem desirable for them to have a fuller treatment of the material with a more discursive presentation and less rigid dogmatism. In addition for slightly more than twice the price of this book one could obtain the classic textbook of obstetrics in the English language. Furthermore, certainly practitioners of obstetrics could not expect to use this as their source of knowledge. Thus although this volume is attractively prepared and beautifully bound, it would seem there is debatable justification for its publication. Finally, in view of the paucity of editorial change, we are sorry to see that the name of Dr. Litzenberg, the synopses' original author, is omitted from this edition.

LAWRENCE D. LONGO, M.D.

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TREATMENT OF INJURIES TO ATHLETES—Don H. O'Donoghue, M.D., Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, University of Oklahoma Medical School, Oklahoma City. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia 5, Pa., 1962. 649 pages, \$18.50.

Although the injuries which athletes suffer during rituals of sport are not peculiar to them, a book specializing in their care is useful as the approach differs from the general run of traumatology. As Dr. O'Donoghue points out, treatment of athletic injuries must aim for a completely perfect result so that the athlete can again take his place in competition. Such perfection is of lesser importance to the average working man where other socio-economic factors must also be considered. Further, in contradistinction to industrial medicine where the physician must guard himself against a human tendency on the part of the patient to prolong his illness, in the care of the athlete the physician must resist the patient's enthusiasm and be sure he is really fit for full duty.

The management of the injuries described starts on the playing field in most cases and ends with the return of the athlete to sports participation. The mechanism of the injuries is clearly described, pertinent physical findings are emphasized, and proper procedures clearly outlined; also the "Do Nots" are driven home. In drawing on his obviously vast fund of personal experience Dr. O'Donoghue has given us a readily understandable picture of the problems encountered in this area. Numerous excellent photographs and diagrams illustrate points in the text. The book is satisfactorily dogmatic in that it lays out at least one firm method of treatment for each of the injuries described. Such a presentation gives the reader something to "hang his hat on" and leaves room for challenging discussion on other possible methods of treatment. For example, this reviewer would be interested to know how many physicians are now treating fractures of the midshaft of the clavicle with open reduction, as recommended by Dr. O'Donoghue.

This volume will be of particular value to those wholly engaged in treating athletic injuries; however, any practicing physician or orthopedic surgeon would do well to have it in his library.

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LOW BACK PAIN SYNDROME—Rene Cailliet, M.D., Chief of Department of Physical Medicine, Southern California Permanente Medical Group; Associate Clinical Professor, University of Southern California School of Medicine Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. F. A. Davis Company, Philadelphia, 1962. 120 pages, paper-bound, \$3.00.

The book discusses the anatomy of the spine, abnormal deviation of spinal function as a pain factor, the clinical application of low back mechanics, the diagnosis and treatment of pain syndromes, the author's concept of correction of faulty body mechanics and therapeutic approach to low back pain and the role of disc disease and other miscellaneous low back conditions, which cause low back discomfort.

The book is replete with illustrations and "match-stick" drawings, which demonstrate the author's concept of the cause of low back pain. Corrective exercises are also well illustrated.

The book would be of particular interest to physicians who are faced with the problem of caring for patients with low back pain, particularly those physicians interested in nonoperative treatment. The subject is presented concisely and dogmatically and some suggestions of the author would, therefore, provoke controversy.

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THE GYNECOLOGIC PATIENT—A Psycho-Endocrine Study—Somers H. Sturgis, with Doris Menzer-Benaron, in collaboration with Thomas A. Morris, Joseph Sabbath, Phillip Gates, Alfred O. Ludwig, Richard Wilson, Robert Elsendrath, Benjamin Murawski and Harriet Robey. With the editorial and secretarial assistance of Riva Shipner. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Park Avenue South, New York 16, N. Y., 1962. 243 pages, \$7.75.

Beginning a decade ago, selected patients admitted with gynecologic complaints to the surgical clinics and wards at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston were studied intensively from a psycho-endocrine viewpoint by the staff of a joint gynecologic-psychiatric research unit. This monograph is a report on the findings of this research effort over a period of more than six years; presented largely through abstracts of case reports and summarizing comments on each case. The first section of the book describes functional gynecologic problems presumed to be psychological in origin, and these are chiefly instances of amenorrhea, dysmenorrhea, premenstrual tension, plus a few miscellaneous problems such as small breasts, the frigid personality, and

postpartum psychosis. The second major section deals with organic problems that require a consideration of the emotions of the patient if the indicated physical procedures are to be well tolerated. Here there are reports of patients with congenital anomalies, benign lesions of the uterus, and infertility.

The senior gynecologist on the research team has been responsible for organizing the vast material of the study and selecting the representative samples used for their teaching value. He has done an admirable job of bolstering the notion that gynecology embraces the total care of a woman with complaints referable to her reproductive organs. At the end of the book there is a short general summary, with conclusions, followed by an epilogue in which the author makes suggestions for improving the gynecologic health of our country's women. He believes that young physicians in training, and especially surgical residents, must be thoroughly indoctrinated in the guiding principles of the endocrine and psychiatric factors that are pre-eminent in gynecologic practice.

This small volume will be of interest to all physicians who wish to learn more about why women act as they do. It should be required reading for all physicians who believe that most anyone with surgical skill can treat gynecologic lesions successfully, but it is unlikely, of course, to come to the attention of many who fall in this category. Too often this has been the fate of worthy efforts in graduate medical education—maldistribution of the basic materials.

C. E. McLENNAN, M.D.

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GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS—John William Huffman, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Northwestern University Medical School; Attending Gynecologist and Obstetrician, Passavant Memorial Hospital; Attending Gynecologist and Head of Department of Gynecology, Children's Memorial Hospital. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1962. 1190 pages, \$28.00.

This large, weighty volume is the latest effort to merge and integrate the teaching of obstetrics and gynecology by placing the usual didactic material between a single pair of covers. While this is not a novel idea, as the author points out, the size of the book and the arrangement of the material within it make it unique. An effort has been made to describe all the important features of the female genitalia in both health and disease from earliest embryonic life all the way to senescence. Considerable space is devoted at the outset to the embryonic development of the genitalia, and then clinical examples of developmental abnormalities are described, but these, for some reason, appear well ahead of two extensive and excellent chapters on normal gross and histologic anatomy. The intervening sections cover pediatric and adolescent gynecology. Considerations of menstrual and coital problems, as well as infertility, complete approximately the first 300 pages of material.

A middle section of about 500 pages is devoted to twenty-one chapters telling a fairly standard story of normal and abnormal obstetrics, but with minimal emphasis on therapy and with something less than the usual volume of illustrations. The remaining 400 pages present what might be termed the real meat of gynecology. Here we find the traumatic lesions, inflammatory diseases, benign and malignant tumors, the menopause, and finally a short chapter on geriatrics as viewed by the gynecologist.

This book was designed, the author says, as a student text to provide summations of current concepts, but it was his intent to avoid expositions of purely mechanical principles and surgical techniques. While the writing is lucid and soundly based, and the illustrations in the main excellent, the massiveness of the volume may overwhelm the average